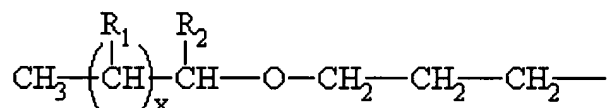


In the Claims

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

5. (Original) An alkyl ether sulfate composition comprising an alkyl ether sulfate represented by the formula:

XOSO₃M, wherein M is hydrogen or a cation, and X is represented by the formula



wherein R₁ represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R₂ represents a hydrocarbyl radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, x is a number ranging from 0 to 16, wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the alkyl ether sulfate ranges from 9 to 24.

6. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 5 wherein M is hydrogen.
7. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 5 wherein M is a cation effective to provide a water soluble alkyl ether sulfate composition.
8. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 7 wherein M is selected from the group consisting of ammonium, alkanolammonium, monovalent metal cations, and polyvalent metal cations.
9. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 5 wherein R₂ is a hydrocarbyl radical having 1 carbon atom.
10. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 9 wherein R₁ is hydrogen.
11. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 5 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.
12. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 6 wherein R₂ is a hydrocarbyl radical having 1 carbon atom.

13. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 12 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.
14. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 6 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.
15. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 7 wherein R_2 is a hydrocarbyl radical having 1 carbon atom.
16. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 15 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.
17. (Original) The alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 7 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.

Claims 18-38 (Canceled).

39. (Original) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 5.
40. (Original) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 6.
41. (Original) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 7.

Claims 42-54 (Canceled).

- ~~40~~55. (Currently amended) A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 9.
- ~~44~~56. A detergent composition comprising the alkyl ether sulfate composition of claim 11.